

Radio Talent

New York By JERRY LESSER

LEW LAURIA has a new book of comic poems on radio, *Coast-to-Coast Hoke-Up*. . . BOB MONROE, who wrote NBC's former *Rocky Gordon, Engineer*, series, has a new one on that network called *Scramble*. The term "scramble," in aviation lingo, means "take off—attack." Bob not only writes the show, but casts and directs. . . BOB SHAYON, producer of WOR's *We Are Always Young*, leaves to join the production department of CBS. . . MORT and LESTER LEWIS are readying a new show starring ZERRO MOSTEL. . . LEAH EFFENBACH, pianist who is vacationing in upper New York State, will give a concert at the Will Rogers Memorial Hospital at Saranac Lake, N. Y., next week. . . LARRY ELLIOTT, free-lance announcer, will address the Scarsdale High School seniors on *Radio as a Career* (and he ought to know). . . TOM TULLEY appeared on *Signal Corps Fights*, WEAF's tribute to the Signal Corps. . . TED DONALDSON, eight-year-old actor, will be interviewed by FRANCES COREY on her *Women in War* program, WQXR.

LOUIS HALL, playing the father on the recorded *Hearts in Harmony* show, was suddenly written out, along with ETHEL REMY, who portrayed the mother because SKIP DONOLLY was drafted by Uncle Sam, and they had to switch the whole plot around. But they did it painlessly. Gave them a nice end by asphyxiation. . . IRENE BEASLEY, who added a third miniature broadcast to her *Ivory Flakes* schedule last week, still finds plenty of time to sing at War Bond rallies, her latest being for the employees of Bonwit Teller. . . No sooner did GEORGE A. PUTNAM move to Bronxville from Manhattan than he was given the announcing job on a 10:30 a.m. program, *Amanda of Honey-moon Hill*, making him an early commuter. . . The other PUTNAM, GEORGE F., news reporter and emcee of the *Army Hour*, is much in demand by Civilian Defense groups and the Treasury savings staff for public appearances. His most recent appearance was with MELVYN DOUGLAS at New York's Hunter

College. . . Look for BOB HAWK's Thursday *How Am I Doin'* to change producers. . . There's a fall radio show in the offing for CAROL BRUCE. . . HELEN LEWIS is an addition to the *Are You a Missing Heir* show. . . JOAN BLAINE loses her CBS *Valiant Lady* producer, WYNN ORR, to the army in a few days. . . After more than two years' absence DON AMECHE will again team with BERGEN-McCARTHY when the coffee program returns to the air September 6 over NBC.

PARKER PENNELLY and EFFIE PALMER star in the new CBS series, *Mother and Dad*, starting August 10. . . CHESTER "TINY" RENIER produces and directs the show. . . *Our Secret Weapon*, a new CBS program, starts August 9. It exposes the lies of German propaganda and is directed by JOHNNY DIETZ and produced by PAUL WHITE, CBS director of news broadcasts. . . ALAN BUNCE, star of *Young Dr. Malone*, hurried 100 miles to New York from his vacation in the Adirondacks, arrived at the studio just in time to go on the air. He found he had just one word in the script of that day. It was "No." . . MOYLAN SISTERS have been renewed for another 13 weeks. . . PAUL LAVALLE, conductor of *Basin Street*, started a new commercial with an all-string, semi-classical orchestra August 9 on the Blue Network.

THEY tell us that RIKEL KENT will resume the directing of *Valiant Lady* when WYNN ORR leaves for the army. . . that WPB is offering scripts of its *MBS This Is Our Enemy* series to listeners. . . that two airplane companies (Lockheed and Northrup) may be radio's newest time users. . . that FIBBER MCGEE and MOLLY are on a fishing expedition in Mexico before starting their eighth consecutive season for the same sponsor. . . that JACK MEAKIN will be the new producer of BOB HAWK's *How Am I Doin'* show. . . that LOUIS ROOT, grandson of ELIHU ROOT, is the latest addition to the NBC guide and page staff.

Chicago By NAT GREEN

ANN MERCER, former vocalist on *Uncle Walter's Dog House*, will pinch-hit for Louise Massey on *Reveille Round-Up* for two weeks. Miss Massey left August 8 for Northern Wisconsin. Then leaves next week with her husband, Milt Mable of *The Westerners*, for a week at Troutdale-in-the-Pines, Colorado. . . BEVERLY TAYLOR made her debut as an actress on the *Hot Copy* program. . . DON PEDRO, Latin singer and instrumentalist, vacationing at Eagle River, Wis., for several weeks. . . NBC actress GENELLE GIBBS made her first venture into radio scripting last week when she adapted *The Antic Assassins of Geary* for *Author's Playhouse*. She is currently on *Lone Journey*. . . LINDA KEENE, Dixieland singer, will return to the Blue's *Club Matinee* August 17 for three weeks, replacing contralto Marion Mann, who will vacation. . . Many radio personalities are donating their services to *Victory Matinee*, WBBM's daily War Bond sales jamboree. AFRA has volunteered to provide guest talent for the

program Mondays and first to appear were BARBARA LUDDY and LES TREMAYNE. On August 17 BETTY LOU GERSON and the entire cast of *Lonely Women* will appear, and August 24 ED-DIE FIRESTONE and the cast of *Brewster Boy*. Co-operating with AFRA is the Authors' Guild War Committee, headed by George Roosen. . . GARRY MOORE, of the *Club Matinee* program, is moving from Chicago to New York to emcee NBC's new *Show Without a Name*, which bows August 17. . . NEVA PATTERSON, recently with Cee Davidson's orchestra, has joined WBBM as vocalist on *Victory Matinee*. . . DON BRINKLEY, formerly of WIND, and CARLYLE STEVENS, for years at WABC, New York, have been added to the continuity staff of WGN. . . New name of JIMMY DORSEY'S program heard Saturday afternoon over WGN is *Navy Bulletin Board*. . . *Navy of the Sky* is a new WGN war program which bowed August 7. Morrison Wood is producing the show; script by Carlyle Stevens.

Hollywood By SAM ABBOTT

CLETE ROBERTS has been assigned the Pacific theater of war on Blue's *Weekly War Journal*. . . SALLY PAYNE, Roy Rogers' leading lady in the movies, has put in her second appearance on *Your Blind Date*. . . RUDY VALLEE has applied for a navy commission. . . PENNY PIPER is the piper with Lud Gluskin's orchestra over CBS Wednesdays. . . CONRAD BINYON, the 12-year-old boy who plays Alvin in the *Major Hoople* series, has been signed for the Jack Benny picture. . . ART BAKER is subbing for SAM HAYES while the latter is on vacation. . . FRANK GRAMHAM, CBS-KNX actor who has starred

in *Adventures of Cosmo Jones* the past three years, has been signed by Monogram Pictures. . . LUM and ABNER, who write their own Blue Network radio scripts, are at work on their picture scenario, *Wonderful World*, which goes into production on the RKO-Pathe lot September 1. . . Beverly, of *First Call With Beverly*, over KNX, is house hunting. Her mother, Mrs. E. H. Ruth, and brother, Dick, recently arrived here from Boulder, Colo. . . DAVE LANE, KNX's singing pianist, added three more 15-minute programs over his Pacific network outlets. . . PAT BISHOP, KFI-KECA announcer and newscaster, moves

Priorities

NORFOLK, Va., Aug. 8.—Irving Abeloff, WRVA program service manager, celebrated his 10th anniversary with a week-end trip to Virginia Beach. Walking down the boardwalk with Mrs. Abeloff and three other girls he encountered a sailor, who halted, raised an eyebrow and queried: "What's this, Bud? You got priorities?"

Ameche Beats Carson For Chase-Sanborn

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 8.—Don Ameche was inked to new pact to emcee the Chase & Sanborn show, which bows in September 6. Deal was talked up by George Frank, Ameche's agent, who managed to get his client the nod over Jack Carson. Show will get face lifting and some new ideas.

New Camel show with Abbott and Costello is slated to start the first week in October. Richard Marvin, of the William Esty agency, is to huddle with comics over show's format.

Shake-Up in KYA

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 8.—As a result of change in station ownership KYA is effecting an almost complete overhauling of personnel.

Removed last week when new manager Wilfred Davis took over were Deane Stewart, program manager; Lillian Holmes, sales co-ordinator; George Taylor, account exec; Ruth Kentor, publicity. Voluntarily resigning were Hal McIntyre, announcer; Darrell Donnell, newscaster, called into the Naval Reserve, and Connie Dupray, receptionist.

Jack Temple, brother of Shirley Temple, has joined the announcers. New program manager is Ed Rountree, who is also assistant manager. Don Federson is new sales manager.

on to an official navy recruiting film series when he completes his narrating chore for Walt Disney's latest government short, *Victory Thru Air Power*.

Morris Show Going To Hollywood; Tough Break for Ray Block

NEW YORK, Aug. 8.—Question now seems to be not if Ray Block will keep his two remaining Philip Morris programs, but how soon he is going to lose them. Already informed that he will turn his batoning assignment on the Tuesday night NBC divertisement over to Dave Rose when Ginny Simms makes her debut from the cinema capital September 3, the triple-program maestro shortly stands to lose the other two CBS Friday and Sunday night half hours when they shift to Hollywood. Besides his chores on the all-musical portion of *Johnny Presents* on NBC, Block does *Crime Doctor* and *Philip Morris Playhouse* on the rival network.

Naming of Vic Knight as executive producer by the Milton Biow agency recently establishes the fact that Biow has decided California will be the origination point of his radio shows, most of which are for the cigarette company. Knight prefers the Coast because of the availability of stars which he cannot get in New York.

The new executive producer will remain in Hollywood for the greater portion of the time and toward this end is currently auditioning from there what is thought to be another variety show for a client whom the agency would like to lure into the fold. Details of audition are being kept secret.

Take Over WBAX

WILKES-BARRE, Pa., Aug. 8.—With permission of the FCC, the Northeastern Pennsylvania Broadcasters, Inc., plan to take over WBAX. Robert A. Doran, president of the NPB, said the permit specifies the new station operate on 1240 kilocycles with power of 100 watts.

Janet Jenkins to WAAC

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 8.—Janet Jenkins, the Nancy Dixon on KYW, is the first woman of local radio to be accepted as an officer candidate in the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps.

Helen Kiley becomes the new Nancy Dixon.

Every
Band
Buyer
Will
Read



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Billboard
BAND Year BOOK
featuring the
4th ANNUAL EDITION
of TALENT & TUNES
on Records

The most important publishing event in the history of the music business. Watch for it!